

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9676

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO

CINCEUR

USCINCUSAFE

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

S E C R E T ANKARA 4844

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, TU

SUBJECT: GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S TALKS IN ANKARA

1. I WAS BRIEFED AT LENGTH TODAY BY GERMAN DCM RE SUBSTANCE OF FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S CONVERSATIONS IN ANKARA. GERMANY EMBASSY HERE HAS REPEATED ITS LONG TELEGRAM ON THIS SUBJECT TO WASHINGTON AND THEIR EMBASSY THERE WILL DOUBTLESS BE SHARING IT WITH APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS.

2. THERE WAS LITTLE THAT WAS NEW IN GENSCHER'S TALK WITH CAGLAYANGIL. TURKS DID NOT RPT NOT REQUEST AN INCREASE IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE FROM FRG. THEY DID HOWEVER EXPRESS GRATIFICATION TO LEARN THAT FRG DID NOT PLAN TO GIVE MORE SURPLUS MATERIALS TO THE GREEKS THAN TO THE TURKS. CAGLAYANGIL SAID IT OF VITAL IMPORTANCE THAT GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS BE IMPROVED BUT GREEKS SUFFERED FROM AN OVERLY NEGATIVE ATTITUDE GOING BACK A NUMBER OF YEARS. KEY TO IMPROVEMENT WAS OF COURSE CYPRUS.

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CAGLAYANGIL LISTED FOUR MECHANISMS BY WHICH RELATIONS

COULD BE IMPROVED: (A) THE PRESENT TALKS ON THE FIR PROBLEM; (B) THE UPCOMING DISCUSSIONS AS TO HOW AEGEAN RESOURCES COULD BE JOINTLY AND EQUALLY EXPLOITED AND SHARED; (C) IF (B) FAILS, THEN WORK IN A JOINT COMMISSION TO DRAFT A "COMPROMIS" FOR THE ICJ; AND (D) INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IN VIENNA.

3. DEMIREL MADE A LENGTHY PRESENTATION ON THE US EMBARGO PROBLEM TO GENSCHER WHICH WAS LARGELY A REHASH OF WHAT HE SAID TO PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY IN BRUSSELS AND WHAT HE HAS SAID IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS SINCE THEN. HE DID SAY THAT A SITUATION HAD ARISEN WHICH COULD CAST A SERIOUS DOUBT ON ALL OF TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH THE WEST BUILT UP SINCE THE SECOND WORLD WAR. AND HE ALSO MADE THE FLAT STATEMENT THAT THE CYPRUS QUESTION COULD NOT BE SETTLED BY PRESSURING TURKEY.

4. GENSCHER REPLIED THAT THIS WAS A PROBLEM OF COMMON INTEREST AND HAD SPECIAL PRIORITY FOR GERMANY. THE ATTITUDES OF THE GOVERNMENTS IN WASHINGTON, ANKARA AND BONN ALL CONINCIDED. THE PROBLEM IS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON AND THE CONGRESS. PRESIDENT FORD WAS ATONING FOR THE SINS OF HIS PREDECESSORS. GENSCHER SAID HE HAD TALKED TO CONGRESSMEN AND HAD COME AWAY WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WOULD FOLLOW THE SENATE LEAD IN LIFTING THE EMBARGO AND THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN SOON. HE WAS CONVINCED THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY WOULD LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED IN THIS EFFORT. IT WAS MOST IMPORTANT IN TERMS OF US PUBLIC OPINION TO AVOID ANY IMPLICATION THAT THE TURKISH NOTE OF JUNE 17 WAS AN ULTIMATUM. THIS WOULD CREATE AN ADVERSE REACTION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. THE US WAS PASSING THROUGH A GRAVE POLITICAL CRISIS IN A SEARCH FOR A NEW BALANCE OF POWER BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE AND THE LEGISLATIVE. WE MUST ALL, SAID GENSCHER, DO EVERYTHING SO THAT THE SOVIET UNION CANNOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SITUATION. HE APPEALED TO TURKEY TO SHOW PATIENCE FOR A WHILE LONGER AND HE SAID THAT THE FRG WOULD DO ITS BEST TO HELP SETTLE TURKISH-US PROBLEMS.

5. DEMIREL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE MINISTER'S EVALUATION BUT SAID THAT THE ATTITUDE OF THE THREE GOVERNMENTS WOULD NOT MATTER MUCH IF CONGRESS DID NOT CHANGE ITS ATTITUDE. HE

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EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE DEFENSIVE POWER OF THE ALLIANCE WOULD BE WEAKENED. GENSCHER REITERATED IT WAS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT THERE BE NO IMPRESSION THAT THE TURKS HAD DELIVERED AN ULTIMATUM. DEMIREL RESPONED THAT TURKEY HAD PRESENTED THE NOTE TO THE USG TO OFFER CONGRESS A CHANCE TO RETHINK THE MATTER. IT WAS NOT RPT NOT AN ULTIMATUM. IN FACT, THE GOT WAS UNDER ATTACK FROM ITS OPPOSITION PRECISELY FOR THIS REASON. OBJECTIVE OF THE NOTE WAS TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT A HOUSE WAS ON

FIRE AND THAT NECESSARY ACTION HAD TO BE TAKEN. GENSCHER SAID THAT THE SECRETARY AND HARTMAN HAD EVALUATED THE TURKISH NOTE AS OBJECTIVE AND MODERATE.

6. GENSCHER POINTED OUT ANOTHER ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM, I.E., THAT THERE WAS A NEW GENERATION OF SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN IN THE US. MANY OF THE OLDER ONES WHO HAD BEEN LINKED WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NATO WERE NO LONGER THERE, AND THE NEWCOMERS DID NOT REALLY KNOW EUROPE. HE THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THIS NEW GENERATION BE INVITED TO EUROPE AND THAT WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES THROUGH THEIR EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON MAKE STRONG EFFORTS TO EDUCATE THEM ABOUT EUROPE. DEMIREL SAID HE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE BUT THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO INVITE CONGRESSMEN TO TURKEY IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

7. IN TALK WITH PRESIDENT KORUTURK, LATTER TOLD GENSCHER THAT IF THE SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN CONTINUED ALONG ITS PRESENT LINES, THE ONLY COUNTRY THAT THE US WOULD BE ABLE TO COUNT ON IN THE ENTIRE REGION WOULD BE ISRAEL. THIS WOULD NOT BE GOOD EITHER FOR THE US OR FOR ISRAEL.

8. IN GENSCHER'S TALK WITH ECEVIT, LATTER TOOK A MUCH HARDER POSITOION THAN DEMIREL. ECEVIT SAID THAT IF THE US EMBARGO CONTINUED, TURKEY'S REMAINING IN NATO WOULD POSE AN UNACCEPTABLE RISK TO TURKISH SECURITY. HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT WESTERN EUROPE COULD FILL THE GAP IN TURKEY'S DEFENSE POSTURE CREATED BY THE EMBARGO. THEREFORE, UNLESS THE EMBARGO WERE REMOVED, TURKEY WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER OTHER OPTIONS FOR ITS SECURITY. ONE OF THESE WOULD BE A POLICY OF NEUTRALITY IN THE EAST-WEST CONFRONTATION.
BERGUS

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